Age Relaxation to OBC Candidates

2175. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would consider relaxing age limit by five years to OBC candidates appearing in competitive examinations for the posts under the Union Government;

(b) whether Government would waive the application fees etc. for OBC candidates applying for competitive examination;

(c) whether Government would provide travelling allowance to OBC candidates who have to travel to examination and interview centres; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (d) Suggestions in this regard have been received in the Ministry from time to time. A decision has been taken in the matter.

SC/ST/OBCs in IAS, IPS and IFS

2176. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in Indian Administrative Services, Indian Police Services and Indian Foreign Services;

(b) the number of OBCs, SCs and STs in all the above services, and percentage thereof, category-wise; and

(c) in what manner the above percentages compare with their percentages in population of the country and is it compatible to the concept of social justice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) A Statement is annexed (*See* below).

(c) Representation of SCs and STs in direct recruitment for Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Foreign Service (IFS) has nearly reached the prescribed percentages of reservations for the respective categories. The reservation for OBCs has started only from the Civil Services Examination, 1994.